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Hill Rivals Differ on Effect Of Shultz Visit to Nicaragua

Associated Press

House Majority Leader James C. Wright Jr. (D-Tex.) said yesterday that the surprise visit of Secretary of State George P. Shultz to Nicaragua may damage chances of obtaining congressional backing for CIA support of Nicaraguan rebels.

A Republican source in the Senate, on the other hand, said it might help.

Wright told reporters, "I don't think it would make the Congress willing to spend more money to overthrow the government when the secretary of state has been down there talking to them."

But the GOP source, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said the White House is continuing efforts to build support in the House for aid to the rebels, and, "With Shultz going in there, maybe it will at least give them some foundation to build on."

Shultz met with Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega on Friday in Managua. Administration officials said Shultz pressed the Nicaraguans for an end to arms

shipments to rebels in El Salvador and a lessening of their ties with Cuba and the Soviet Union.

In return, reports said, Nicaraguan officials urged the United States to cease CIA backing for the rebels who are attempting to topple Nicaragua's leftist government.

The Republican-controlled Senate has approved \$21 million in emergency funds to continue the CIA operations in Nicaragua, but the House refused to go along with any further funds in this fiscal year for that purpose.

The stalemate is holding up \$62 million in emergency military aid for El Salvador, which is in the same bill as the undercover assistance money.

Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.) said Senate consideration of the bill has not been scheduled.

[Meanwhile, Knight-Ridder reported that the Reagan administration had shifted its position and is now willing to grant Salvadoran political leader Roberto D'Aubuisson a visa to visit the United States.]